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CIA4-Cuba

Fidel Castro

The Rise and Decline of Fidel Castro Maurice Halperin

The author of this unusual book was twice forced out of teaching positions at American universities because of his political beliefs. He spent three years on the faculty of the USSR Academy of Sciences and five years, from 1962 to 1968, at the University of Havana. He went to Cuba in 1962 on the invitation of Che Guevara, who had visited him in Moscow, and there gathered the materials for this intimate portrait of the Castro regime.

Mr. Halperin concentrates his attention on Castro's foreign policy, placing it in the context of domestic policy and conditions. Obviously skilled in reading the new socialist rhetoric, Professor Halperin guides the reader through the maze of documents, speeches, and propaganda which constitute the record of the Castro regime during the sensational events involving Kennedy, Khrushchev, missiles, and the CIA. Although the main narrative is concerned with the years 1959-1964primarily the period of the rise of Fidel Castro -it contains digressions into events of the following years when, according to the author, Castro's great utopian dreams turned into nightmares. A second volume, carrying the story down to the present, is in preparation.

Maurice Halperin is Professor of Political Science at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.

"A brilliant contribution to the literature on contemporary Cuba and perhaps even more a remarkable series of insights into the new politics of mass society." -

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